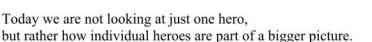
## Early Church truths of Believers



Essential Teachers notes:

For this story you will need a picture of a body and the overlay sheets of body parts (remember to split sheet 2 across the middle). You'll also need a bible. The story is told by making pictures on the floor, so make sure you have a flat space before you start and that all the children can see well. Encourage the children not to touch the story pieces until the story is over. Directions are in brackets and italics. Finish with a time of reflection using the worksheet, either corporately or in small groups. or lead straight into a craft time.

Main Passage: 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

(Please note this will not cover the spiritual gifts verses at the end of this chapter.)

I wonder where we learn about God?

(let the children answer, when the bible is mentioned bring one out from your bag flick through the pages as you speak) The bible has lots of stories, stories of great adventures, but it also has words of wisdom too. Today are going to hear some of those words of wisdom from the Bible, they can be found in 1 Corinthians 12. (Show children where the passage is in the Bible, leaving it open place it slightly to one side.)

> (As you speak slowly lay out the pieces of the body pages 1& 2, touch the parts of the body you mention) The body is one whole thing, but it's made up of many parts.

Feet and legs and knees...

Hands and arms and elbows...

Eyes, ears, nose mouth...

Teaching bible truths is always harder than a straightforward story. The time

for reflection is more important, as children grapple with how this

affects their faith.

This story is adapted from an

original lesson written by Tanja

Rouintree for Faith Village at

First Presbyterian Church

I wonder how many parts our bodies have, even though they are all different we still only have one body. Like the body, In the church we are all different, but we are all part of one church. We are each different, like the parts of a person's body are all different, but they all work together to be one body. (if the children are quiet, pause here for a second, sit back and think about it)

> The foot might say, "I am not a hand. So I am not part of the body." (Remove the foot) But saying this would not stop the foot from being a part of the body. (Bring the foot back)

> The ear might say, "I am not an eye. So I am not part of the body." (Remove the ear) But saying this would not make the ear stop being a part of the body. (Bring the ear back)

Imagine if the whole body were an eye, the body would not be able to hear. If the whole body were an ear, the body would not be able to smell anything. (Bring out the overlay covered in hands) I wonder, If each part of the body were the same part, would it still be a body?

(return to the normal picture)

God put the parts in the body, as he wanted them. He made a place for each one of them. There are many many parts, but just one body.

(Take out the picture of the children in the shape of a cross.) We are all together in the body of this church (Place the cross in the centre of the body.) Each one of you is a part of this body. (again, if the children are quiet, pause here for a second, sit back and think about it) The body is not complete without each one of you.

